Exodus recounts the journey of the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt to the land promised to their ancestors. It was not an easy journey. In today's reading, they are attacked by Amalek and his soldiers, members of one of the peoples who live in the land through which the Israelites are traveling. Moses was on the hilltop with his arms raised to invoke the LORD's assistance in the battle below, a powerful illustration of the LORD's favor upon Israel. If the soldiers were to lift up their eyes to that hill (see Psalm 121:1), they would be reassured by Moses' presence and posture. Paul urges the Thessalonians to persist in proclaiming the gospel, and Jesus likewise commends the widow for her persistence in pursuit of the justice due her. Whether they preach or pray, the followers of Jesus need persistence through periods of difficulty.

**PRAY ALWAYS? HOW?**

Today we have two examples that can help us reflect on what it means to pray always. The first is Moses, holding his arms up so that the Israelites will have the better of the battle. This is a common posture for prayer in the ancient world, and the Bible is full of references to one's lifting up hands (and arms) in prayer. The second example is from the parable Jesus uses to demonstrate the principle of praying always: the widow who persistently pestered a judge from whom she demanded justice. Moses' prayer is a continuous movement extended over a period of time; the widow's petition is repeated at frequent intervals over time. The Church's rich tradition of prayer sets before us examples of both kinds of prayer.
October 20, 2019
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MONDAY – OCTOBER 21st**

8AM(E) Joseph Yutkow req. Mr. & Mrs. Mulhern
7PM(E) Church James Curll req. Lisa
7PM(P) Chapel Kristopher i Maximilian
Marii i Bliskich

**TUESDAY – OCTOBER 22nd St. John Paul II**

8AM(E) Florence Rychlak req. Bob & Millie Rychlak
7PM For the people of St. John Cantius

**WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 23rd St. John of Capistrano**

8AM(E) Freda Gontarek req. Veronica Gontarek

**THURSDAY – OCTOBER 24th St. Anthony Mary Claret**

8AM(E) For Those Enrolled in the Memorial Fund

**FRIDAY — OCTOBER 25th**

8AM(E) Marian Schumann req. Chuck & Janet Girnius

**SATURDAY—OCTOBER 26th**

8AM(P) Marii i Stanislawa by Dzieci
2PM Nuptial Ceremony Michael Andrew Matulewicz & Kathryn Helen Gmyr
5PM(E) Kathleen Augustine req. Ushers 5 o’clock Mass

**SUNDAY – OCTOBER 27th**

8AM(E) Tony & Mary Paszk req. Family (57th Anniversary)
10AM(E) For PREP Students & Families
11:30AM(P) Narcyz Sadlon req. Mol Rodzina

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**LECTORS OCTOBER 27**

5PM Tom Crouthers Jr.
8AM Jason Cook
10AM PREP

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Please pray for our recently deceased Loretta Londer. May God grant her eternal peace in His Presence.

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church burns for Anniversary Blessings for Ted & Alice together in Heaven with Steven. From the Loving, Tantala & Drejerski Families.

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The Second Collection today is for Mission Sunday 10/20.

Next week’s collection is for Fuel Offering 10/27.

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BANNERS DONATED

Our Ordinary Time banners in Church & Chapel were donated by John & Kash Augustine, Regina Filipczak & The Polish Parishioners. If you are interested in donating a banner, please call the rectory office. Thank you.

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Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 20, 2019

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains; whence shall help come to me?
My help is from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
— Psalm 121:1-2
Letter From Pastor

This weekend, we begin our beautiful Forty Hours Devotion. Every year at this time, Our Lord is exposed on our altar in the Blessed Sacrament for three days, giving us the opportunity to visit Him and ask His blessing upon our parish family. We hope everyone takes the time to come and spend some time with Him – even for only 30 minutes. Come as a family. I remember as a child my parents taking us to Church during the Forty Hours. We spent a short time saying our prayers and then went home feeling good and refreshed knowing that we did something for Jesus. He blessed us and enabled us to be a good family. I hope you too take some time out of your busy day to visit our Lord.

The schedule of the Forty Hours Devotions is as follows:

**Sunday, 7:00 P.M. — Evening Prayer, Homily, Benediction (Polish in Chapel; English in Church)**
Monday, 7:00 P.M. — Mass and homily (Polish in Chapel; English in Church)
Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. — Mass and homily Polish and English in Church) followed by Procession to the Mary Garden (Weather permitting)

I will give the homily in English on Sunday and at Mass on Monday and Msgr. Albin Grous will give the homily in English and Polish on Tuesday evening in Church. Fr. Zbigniew Majcher will give the homilies in Polish on Sunday and Monday in Chapel and on Tuesday in Church.

It is so very important that we have someone “keeping watch” during the day throughout the 3 days of Forty Hours. We have placed time sheets in the back of the Church. Could you or your family take 15 minutes or a half an hour on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament? There is so much to pray for in these days: for peace in the world, in our nation and in our family; for our parish — especially our families; for our children; for ourselves. Please sign your name on the list.

Catherine Joanne returns to our parish this Tuesday for the monthly Spiritual Enrichment Program. We invite you to attend one — or all — of the following: Wednesday evening at 6:30 in the rectory (Mini-Retreat with Pot Luck Supper); Friday evening at 7:00 in the Rectory dining room (Spiritual Date Night). Bring a date or your spouse. Light dinner provided; Saturday morning at 10:00 in the Rectory dining room (All these spiritual events are uplifting and will help better your relationship with God and one another — and help you to continue to grow spiritually.

This Thursday, October 24th, at 6:30 P.M., we will once again have the Living Rosary recited in our Church. We ask all who would like to be a “bead” as you hold a candle and form a “living rosary” around our Church to call the Rectory this week. Even if you make up your mind to come at the last minute, please join us for this very inspiring evening of prayer. We invite families to come and hold a candle together.

On Sunday, October 27th, at 5:00 PM in our Chapel, as part of our Spiritual Renewal Program, we will celebrate a Mass for the Anointing of the Sick for all our parishioners who are homebound and are unable to attend Mass on a regular basis. At this Mass, we will anoint those who attend who suffer from mental, spiritual and physical illness with the Oil of the Sick. We ask our parishioners to consider bringing your family members, friends and neighbors to this Mass so they can be renewed in mind and body with the love of God. This Mass will conclude our week of holiness and renewal. Come and pray with us.

The Christmas Bazaar will take place on November 8th and 9th. We are asking for donations of new toys for our Toy Booth. There will be large boxes placed at all the door entrances of the Church next Sunday where you may place your donated toy. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

During this week of holiness in our parish, may God be with you.

OUR DYNAMIC CATHOLIC THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “Jesus was completely human just like us. Therefore, he knows what our lives are like. And he can also show us the best way to live.”

A SECOND THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “Jesus cares more about your future than he does about your past.”

PRAYER - STUDY - GENEROSITY - EVANGELIZATION

Are YOU a “Dynamic Catholic”?
**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Rom 4:20-25; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18; Ps 124:1b-8; Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Rom 6:19-23; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Rom 7:18-25a; Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94; Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Rom 8:1-11; Ps 24:1b-4ab, 5-6; Lk 13:1-9
Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

**Collection Count for Oct. 13, 2019**

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Mailed Env. 22 $78 $1,393 $1,471
40 Hours Flowers 168 $896 $339 $1,235

Grand Total $3,128 $4,385 $7,513

Total Deposit $7,513

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Although the hours of daylight are rapidly dwindling, many people would say that these October days bring the year’s most splendid weather. Americans are riders and joggers, not strollers, and so the pleasures of the season are often lost on us. This is not the case with many Jewish people, who observe an ancient rule in walking to synagogue on the Sabbath. On city streets and suburban sidewalks in many cities, we may notice around sunset the nicely dressed families walking and chatting on Friday afternoon. After a short prayer at dusk, the families stroll home again for a relaxing and festive meal. They return to synagogue in the morning, and then spend an afternoon in family leisure until three stars appear in the night sky and Sabbath ends.

Catholics, on the other hand, pile into the car and drive even a short distance to Mass; some even divide the family to participate at different hours. For Jews, the leisurely walk marks a dividing line between hectic life commitments and a day of abundant joy and enrichment. Before we became an automobile culture, Catholics embraced a similar pace, and in most places walked to church. These lovely days of fall invite us to tap into an old and life-giving tradition. If you live within a mile of your church, walk next week. If you must drive, park at a good distance and walk the rest of the way. Talk about your life, greet strangers, notice the crunch of leaves under your shoes. You may be surprised at how different Sunday Mass feels when it is framed by leisure!

**PRAYER PETITION BOOK**

is located on the podium in the back of the Chapel and is available for you to write your intentions. The book will be carried up to the sanctuary during the **Entrance Procession** of the Mass every Sunday.

If the Mass you are attending is being requested by you or a family member, and you wish to participate in the **Offertory Procession**, please see the ushers **before Mass begins.**
You're Invited! Men’s Retreat to become closer to Christ. Who among us doesn't want to be closer to Christ? And yet, who among us struggles to find the time to get closer to Him? Come to the Malvern Retreat House. We'll not only provide you the time, we'll share ways to help you make Christ the center of your life’s journey. Lives are changed at Malvern. Come as you are, Thanksgiving Weekend Friday P.M. Nov.29—Sunday A.M. Dec. 1. Students, and sons accompanied by their fathers of their or their grandfathers, can come at greatly reduced price. For additional information contact A. Moral, amoral@Malver Retreat.com or Frank Coyne 215-677-0985 fxcoyne43@yahoo.com or www.malvernretreat.com.

Living Rosary

Once again, our parish members & friends are praying The Living Rosary on Thurs., October 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Church. This is a most beautiful tribute to Our Lady where each of us has a lit candle and prays a bead asking for her intercession in all our needs. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please come at least 15-20 min. before 6:30, so we can begin promptly.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight (Exodus 17:8-13).
Psalm — Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth (Psalm 121).
Second Reading — Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed (2 Timothy 3:14 — 4:2).
Gospel — Will not God secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? (Luke 18:1-8).


St. John Cantius Annual Christmas Bazaar

Food! Santa! Shopping! Games!

November 8th, 2019
6 pm to 9 pm

November 9th, 2019
4 pm to 9 pm
The chill of winter is in the air as Keith Baker and the BRT Concert Band, along with fabulous entertainers, take the stage to perform your favorite carols and heartwarming holiday songs. You won't want to miss this opportunity to celebrate the holidays in style!

Join St. John Cantius Parish for a Christmas Show and Dinner

Saturday, December 14, 2019  Tickets are on First Level

Tickets are Limited, First Come, First Served
Leaving SJC 12:30 PM, Returning Approx 7:30 PM

2:00 PM Show @ Bristol Riverside Theater, Complete Dinner at Georgine's, Choice of entree Round Trip Transportation, All Taxes and Gratuities

Price Includes

Total cost: $80.00 per person
$30.00 Deposit Required.
Balance due before 11/25/2019

Great Christmas Gift
Information:
Terry 215-601-2333

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________

# of Tickets: __________ @ $80.00 ea = $ ________________

Deposit: # of Tickets @ $30.00 ea = $__________ Balance $ ________ due 11/25/19

Entree: choice one per person:
Prime Rib: _____ Salmon Filet: _____ Chicken Parm: _____ Boneless Stuffed Capon ___

Return this portion to SJC Rectory
4415 Almond St.
19137
CONTINUED FROM THE COVER PAGE

IT IS POSSIBLE TO PRAY ALWAYS

Early monks who lived as hermits in the deserts of Egypt and Syria took the command to pray always so seriously that everything in their life was arranged to maximize the time for continuous prayer. The monks disciplines to that end were likened to that of athletes; the practice of all-night prayer was one that was especially admired. The Church’s primary model for persistent, repeated prayer is the Liturgy of the Hours, which flows from the principle that daily prayer at given times consecrates all of time as well as the work done the rest of the time. Each gathering time is known as an Hour. The most significant Hours are Morning and Evening Prayer (known also as Lauds and Vespers). The prominence of the Liturgy of the Hours in the Church’s tradition is why so many other Catholic prayers and devotions are similarly anchored in time: the Angelus (morning, noon, evening), daily rosary, or prayers arranged for morning and evening found in almost all Catholic prayer books.

Regardless of how we pray, our call as disciples is to become persons of prayer with hearts more and more open to the voice of God in prayer. In the end, this is what it means to pray always.

 COLLECTION COUNTERS FOR SUNDAY
Oct 20 Joan Reed & Michelle Skalski & Terri Pacan
Oct 27 Terry Casey & Joe Foster
Nov 3 Connie Perrault & Maryann Marszalek
Nov 10 Joan Reed, Michelle Skalski & Terri Pacan
Nov 17 Terry Casey & Joe Foster

LOTTERY TICKETS

Lottery tickets will be sold in the back of the Chapel or Church.

Calendars are now available for distribution. The cost of each calendar for the month is $5.00. The winning number is based on the evening drawing of the Pennsylvania Lottery. Daily prizes of $50.00 a day and Sundays are $100.00. Plus each month a bonus day! Sellers are needed. Tickets will be sold before and after each Mass. This will be an on going fundraiser. We ask for you help and support to make this an ongoing success. Thank you for your support of our Parish.

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St. John Cantius Parish is proud to introduce our new Online Giving Program

No more searching for the check book or last-minute Sunday morning stops at the ATM. No need to worry about dropping off your envelopes at the Rectory if you are going away for a weekend or during vacation. Parish Giving is a simple, secure and convenient website. You can make one-time donations or pick the day of the month for the recurring contributions to be processed. Everything is accessible to you online. This program is being used successfully at other parishes in our Archdiocese, and we hope this tool will help you with your Sunday contribution needs. To register for Online Parish Giving, please visit our page and follow the instructions:

www.stjohncantiusparish.org/parish-giving

There are NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS held in our convent on Tuesday nights beginning at 7:30 PM. Any questions, please call the rectory.
640AM

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